(d) whether it is a fact that last month i.e. in July, 2006 the Supreme Court has given some direction on Babhali Project; and

(e) if so, the details of the directives of Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) to (c) Government of Andhra Pradesh in May, 2005 brought to the notice of Central Government that Government of Maharashtra has taken up construction of 11 new barrages across main river Godavari including Babhali Barrage, in violation of the inter-state agreement between the two States. In this connection, two inter State meetings were held in Central Water Commission with the Government of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh on 11.7.2005 and 5.10.2005. Minister (WR) also convened an inter-state meeting with the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra on 4.4.2006 on the Babhali Barrage issue.

(d) and (e) In July, 2006, Government of Andhra Pradesh has filed on Original Suit under Article 131 of Constitution against State of Maharashtra and Union of India and Others. In the Suit, the State of Andhra Pradesh has prayed to the Court to grant a permanent injuction restraining State of Maharashtra from undertaking or proceeding with the construction Babhali Barrage within the reservoir waterspread area of Pochampad Project. In the Application for Interim Relief in the Suit, it has prayed to the Court to restrain the State of Maharashtra by an *ex-parte* Order of ad-interim injuction from proceeding with the construction of Babhali barrage on river Godavari and impounding water therein. The Court has directed respondents to file reply and directed to list the Suit for 4/8/2006 to consider application of interim relief.

United Nations World Water Development Report

863. SHRI B.J.PANDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India have been shown in a poor light on

managing its critical resources on water in the United Nations World Water Development Report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India have been taken as a case study for corruption in water supply and sanitation sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, indicating the action plan of Government to address this issue?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) and (b) The World Water Development Report released by the UNESCO on 22nd March, 2006 presents an overall scenario of water resources related issues at the global level. However, some specific issues/case studies from some countries including that from India have been highlighted in the Report. The report reflects the achievements as well as shortcomings.

(c) & (d) The section of the World Water Development Report dealing with corruption in water sector refers to various cases in different countries. The section has also quoted the findings of an independent survey carried out by Mr. J. Davis and presented in his book "Corruption in Public Service Delivery: Experience from South Asia's Water and Sanitation Sector" under the heading "Corruption in Water Supply and Sanitation Sectors in India."

In response to the above it may be mentioned that well established mechanisms are in place to address the issues related to corruption at the Center as well as State level. Further, as informed by the Ministry of Urban Development, a 'Manual on Operation and Maintenance of Water Supply System' has been published in January, 2005 and the same has a separate chapter on "Public Awareness-Cutomer Relations" which would facilitate the concerned State Government/Urban Local Bodies to take corrective steps.